



Brown County Board Minutes



(ALL MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING)

February 16, 2021

The Brown County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 5:15 P.M., in the Brown County Courthouse Meeting Room with members Chairman Buddy Small and Dennis Bauer present. Absent: Reagan Wiebelhaus. Also present were Brown County Attorney Andy Taylor (BCA), Brown County Highway Superintendent Kenneth Turpin (BCHS), Brown County Treasurer Deb Vonheeder (BCT) and Brown County Clerk office assistant Lisa Chohon.

Chairman Small acknowledged the Open Meeting Act posted near the entrance to the Meeting Room.

Those in attendance rose and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda item regarding the combination of future cost of living with evaluation wage increases will be placed on the March 2, 2021 agenda.

BCHS Turpin gave an update on Road Department work. Chairman Small stated that Nebraska Department of Transportation has informed him that the bridge work in the Long Pine hills planned for 2021, has been postponed until 2022.

Bauer read a letter addressed to Corey Steel, State Court Administrator, stating that Brown County is not in favor of LB 102 which proposes the transfer of duties of the ex officio Clerks of the District Court to the Judicial Branch, and proposed changes to the elected Clerks of the District Court. Bauer moved to allow all three Commissioners to sign before mailing. Small seconded. Roll Call: Bauer and Small Ayes, Wiebelhaus absent. Motion carried.

At 5:30 P.M., the sealed bid for Brown County 2021 Armor Coating was opened. There was only one bid submitted. Bauer moved to accept the bid submitted by Topkote Inc. of Yankton, SD in the amount of \$12,598.00 per mile, and authorize Chairman Small to sign. Small seconded. Roll Call: Small and Bauer Aye, Wiebelhaus absent. Motion carried.

Andy Forney with D A Davidson of Omaha, NE and Brown County Hospital Administrator John Werner were present to discuss the possible refinancing of the Hospital bond. Bauer moved to authorize D A Davidson to prepare a Parameters Resolution for the Boards' consideration at the March 2, 2021 Commissioner meeting. Small seconded. Roll Call: Bauer and Small Ayes, Wiebelhaus absent. Motion carried.

Hospital Administrator Werner introduced Tad Stearns to the Commissioners. Tad is the new Hospital Controller.

Tobin Buchanan with First National Capital Markets from Kearney, NE was present to introduce himself, and give the Commissioners information on bond refinancing.

Discussion was held regarding Brown County withdrawing from Region 24 Emergency Management Agency Interlocal Agreement. Small moved to approve Resolution #2021-12 stating that Brown County shall withdraw from the Region 24 Emergency Management Agency effective June 30, 2021. Notice in the form of a copy of the signed resolution shall be sent by certified mail to all other remaining parties to the Agreement no later than June 30, 2021. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: Small and Bauer Ayes, Wiebelhaus absent. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding Brown County designation as a Second Amendment Sanctuary county. Bauer moved to approve Resolution 2021-13, stating that the Brown County Board of Commissioners hereby reaffirm our individual oaths to defend and support the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Nebraska, and do hereby commit to defend the rights and liberties of the people of Brown County to the fullest extent possible under prevailing law; and, that the Brown County Board of Commissioners hereby acknowledge and designates Brown County to be a Second Amendment Sanctuary county. Small seconded. Roll Call: Bauer and Small Ayes, Wiebelhaus absent. Motion carried.



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Small moved to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2021 Commissioner meeting as written and officially recorded on Commissioner Book #22. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: Small and Bauer Aye, Wiebelhaus absent. Motion carried.

Small moved to approve claims, and the Clerk's monthly fee report for January 2021 in the amount of \$ 2,403.55. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: Bauer and Small Ayes, Wiebelhaus absent. Motion carried.

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 P.M.

The next regular meeting of the Brown County Commissioners will be Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 5:15 PM, Brown County Courthouse, Ainsworth, Nebraska.

This meeting's public notice was published in the Ainsworth Star-Journal, aired on KBRB Radio, and posted at the Brown County Clerk's office, where all agendas and minutes are kept current for public inspection at any time.